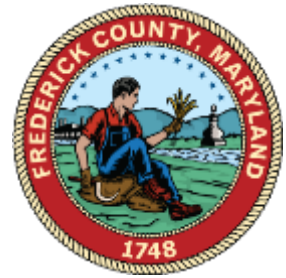




Frederick County Sustainability Commission
Meeting Minutes for
3/15/17



FCSC Attendees: Tom Anderson, Jennifer Bird, Annie Jones, Ron Kaltenbaugh, Joe Richardson, Kevin Sellner, Tim Jones, Rachel Armistead, Elizabeth Peterson, John Ferri

OSER: Suzanne Cliber

Public: Bonnie Griesemer, Jane Dennison, Kathy Kinsey, Rich Maranto; Jerry Donaldson; Ron Hardman

I. Welcome and Introductions

- A. The Chair (Annie Jones) welcomed all FCSC members and guests with introductions by all.
- B. Introductions included Jane Dennison and Kathy Kinsey, applicants to be Commission members.

II. Vice Chair Items

- A. Approval of February minutes.
 - 1. Approval of February Minutes. Kevin made a motion to accept the minutes, Tom seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by all.
- B. Review Action Items
 - 1. Water Quality/watershed indicators to be discussed today.
 - 2. Sub-committees to set up meetings prior to our next Commission meeting.
 - 3. County green teams: Ron attended Frederick City meeting. They are looking for citizens to join. Meetings are the first Monday of the month. They are working on making City events more environmentally friendly. Tom noted that the Thurmont green team will plant trees on Earth Day.
 - 4. County solar bill: Distance from US Rt 15, County Planning Commission recommended dropping the 5 mile distance to 1 mile. FCSC agrees that this distance be reduced. FCSC also recommends changing the language of the size of the property allowed to be developed, and the wording of the tillable land designation be clarified. We suggest: For tillable acreage, no more than 75 acres or 10% may be encumbered.
 - a. Jerry Donaldson has the newly revised Solar Bill.
 - a. Floating zone

- b. 3 types of facility, commercial, community, individual
- c. Land shall not exceed 750 acres
- d. Must be place more than 2 miles off of Route 15
- e. Maximum of 10% or 75 acres of of tillable acreage

III. Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Workshop

- A. County Executive Gardner has asked FCSC to solicit input from offices to be affected by the establishment of the program
 - 1. One goal – municipalities to be able to latch onto County contracts to save money on bulk purchases
 - a) Diane Fouche with Purchasing supports a workshop to help the local municipalities
 - b) Ron is coordinating potential dates in May and a location
 - 2. Subcommittee for EPP can research ideas for developing a policy and pilot products
 - a) Looking for products that are environmentally sustainable and cost effective
 - b) Next steps could include ensuring that products are recycled and composted properly
 - c) Policy could include budgeting for higher upfront costs with cost efficient life cycle

IV. Sustainability Indicators – Status Update

- A. Bylaws require us to establish indicators that measure success in developing sustainability goals.
- B. We have discussed whether to keep indicators set several years ago or develop new indicators.
 - 1. Annie would like the subgroup to work on three indicators to present at the next FCSC meeting.

V. What's Next Phase 2 Report Update

- A. What's Next is an initiative to review future waste disposal options
- B. The Phase 2 report has been submitted and is available for public review on the website, with a Town Hall on April 20th in Winchester Hall.
 - Recommendations:
 - Remove organics from waste stream
 - Decentralized composting
 - Looking into three bin collection
 - Review of costs vs savings included in the next steps
 - Majority of waste is currently hauled to landfills in PA
 - Looking to create local compost facilities in the various municipalities
 - Public/private partnerships are a strong possibility

VI. OSER and Livable Frederick: EE Work Group Updates

- A. Green Homes awards ceremony next Thursday. Still looking for volunteers.
- B. Two Earth Day events, stream cleanup and storm drain stenciling.
- C. Booth at Home show on Saturday/Sunday.

VII. Commission Members Items of Interest

- Jerry Donaldson – Private/public partnership is key to the composting effort. Must promote that this process is cost efficient and profitable.
- Jenn – New compost bin on the way.
- Kevin – Emmitsburg has cyanobacteria in their drinking water supply. Will try ultrasound methods for removal. Lake Linganore and Anita Louise seeking additional monitoring for 2017. Energy and Environment Workgroup currently on hold. A draft comprehensive plan has been submitted to committee members.
- Ron K – EV group participating in a number of events. Chevy Bolt should be available in MD now. Attended Climate Reality conference in Denver. Almost 1000 people in attendance. Will prepare presentations in the future.
- Tim – Home Show at Frederick Fairgrounds this weekend. FCC Tiny House will be on display. Example of alternative smaller housing units, particularly for senior citizens.

- Tom – Kevin connected Tom with Hood College regarding the Green Neighbor festival at Culler Lake in May. Solar Co-op extended through end of May so they can participate as well. Attended workshop with DNR and discussed green schools.
- Joe – Stream Restoration on Bar T property. Center for Watershed Protection applying for grant. Involving Advanced Placement high school students in collecting data, particularly in regards to soil, peat layers, and seed stock. DNR looking to use the site as a permanent monitoring site. Sustainable building almost complete. Looking for PACE loan to place solar panels.
- Rachel – Open Kitchen this Saturday at Clustered Spires Bakery. West Frederick Farmers Market opens in April.
- John – Project in Puerto Rico, Job Corps centers looking for program funding. John developed long range plan to install new roofs in dormitories etc, with solar arrays that offset roof costs.

Public Comments

- None.

Action Items:

8-18-16. Choose water quality/watershed indicators to help develop sustainability goals.

10-10-15. FCSC committees: Invite community volunteers to join.

10-8-15. County Green Teams: Ron has assembled a comprehensive list that includes municipalities with teams and contact information shown.

Adjournment: Following a motion, which was seconded and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.